

**REMARKS**

1. Claims 1-12 are pending in the application.
2. Applicants are being required to elect one of 15 Groups pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 121.

Applicants provisionally elect Group III with traverse for examination purposes.

At the outset, Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement. MPEP § 803 states that the two criteria for a proper requirement for restriction are (1) the inventions must be independent or distinct as claimed, and (2) there must be a serious burden on the Examiner if restriction is required.

Here the Examiner has not shown that there would be a serious burden on the Examiner given our contention that the three amino acid sequences, SEQ ID NO's 1, 3 and 5, disclosed in Applicant's specification would not impose an undue burden on the Examiner to search. Applicants respectfully request the joiner of Group I and Group II to the provisionally elected Group III of the restriction requirement at this time.

3. Non elected Claims 2-12 are withdrawn without waiver prejudice to pursuing the subject matter of such claims in any continuing application such as e.g., a continuation application, divisional application etc. Applicants retain the right to rejoinder according to MPEP 821.04.

4. New claims 13-17 are added. Support for claims 13-17 are found in the specification at page 16, line 12, page 18, lines 15-18.

Appl. No. 10/781,181  
Amend dated February 13, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of January 19, 2006

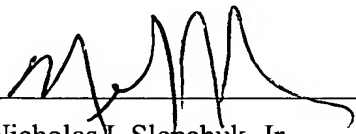
To the extent any fee is due the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any required fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 16-1445.

A prompt and favorable response is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

2/13/06



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